under the double moons

a dramatic scene for narrators & large mixed chorus

by Barry R. Morse

Performance Notes

Narrators

1. There are two texts that are read simultaneously by two narrators. Male or female narrators may be used but both narrators should be of the same gender and have the same voice type so as to not differentiate the texts too much. The narrators should stand close to one another as well. The object is to have the sound equally mixed together and not be antiphonal or stereophonic. The narration should always be just below the level of comprehensibility to the listeners with the volume levels of the narrations sufficiently low so that complete audibility is not always possible. Narrators should strive to not vary their dynamic levels. A level should be selected so that the text can be heard but not well when the music is soft, barely heard when the music is moderately loud and completely obscured when the chorus is very loud. Sometimes the chorus will completely drown out the narration. This is desireable, but the narrators must be seen to be reading nevertheless.

2. Narrators should read the texts in coordination with the music; that is, never get beyond or behind the music on the page. Each score page represents 15 seconds in duration. If narrators read very quickly they should be able to get through the texts for each page without running too far ahead of falling behind. The reading should be dispassionate and undrammatic but annunciated clearly, although low in volume.

Soloists

1. Two soloists are needed, one a soprano and the other a bass. Both should be comfortable singing *Sprechstimme*. Their rendering may be very drammatic (in contrast to the Narrators) possibly including costumes, make-up and moving around the stage.

Chorus

1. A large chorus should be used: at least 8 singers each of SATB. Additional singers can double other parts.

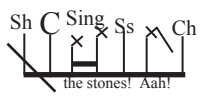
2. Special notations:

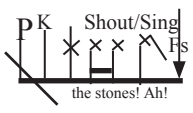
(3 bars before C) gliss from lowest pitch while mumbling and accelerating. Not with others.

(various places) Each singer randomly chooses any pitch within confines of box. Pitch may be a microtone or "out-of-tune" with traditionally notated pitches on staff. Once a pitch is chosen and sung do not waver in trying to either match or not match a neighbor. The object is indeterminate intervals, chords and clusters produced in performance.

(4 bars before D) Performed as whining, sighing pleas vocally with short glisses up/down as when begging. Actual number of sounds (may be variable) in each box not to be taken literally.

(various places) Highest/lowest pitch possible with most effective sound. May or may not be "in-tune," or same pitch as neighbor.





(at F) A series of effects which should be performed individually (not with others) and AFAP (as fast as possible). Specifically:

Sh "shh" sound

sung, any pitches

short falling scream

C hand clap

Ss "sss" sound

Ch "ch" sound

P "pop" made with air pressure explosively released passed tightly pressed lips (alternatively strike palm to open mouth for "pop")

K unvoiced "k" sound

finger snap (if not able to make loud enough then hand clap)

Fs foot stomp

3. At times singers are called upon to Mumble, Speak, Scream, Shout and/or Shriek. These effects should be performed as dramatically as possible with appropriate dynamics, etc. Ensemble should experiment with dramatic gesture and facial expression (also lighting and costumes), but should only be used as ensemble, never as only a few individuals and never to the point of distraction, banality or humor (Narrators never participate in the drama).

4. Before G Solo 2 degenerates into indistinct mumbling. It should appear that soloist is actually singing text but that the dynamic is too low for comprehension. The chorus glisses to their highest pitches evolving into sudden screams (do not simply add a scream to highest not of gliss) in S and A. A sudden cut off, reveals a brief exposed Solo phrase suddenly all too comprehensible immediately followed by ensemble on lowest pitches at loudest volume possible. Singers will rapidly run out of air and all but Basses should not reattack or reenter. Basses, however, should stagger reemtries with as little notice as possible, crescendoing into pitch to hide entry in order to prolong last note.

Narrator 1

Under the double moons of Kraal, in the ancient land of Zarnak stood the fair city of Xanthu. It was known to travelers along caravan routes from the far mountains as the city of yellow gilded gates and green tourmaline towers. Xanthu was all this and much more, as real as any dream under the double moons of Kraal.

And Xanthu was young compared with other cities. Every boulder and brick was already crumbling into dust when fair Xanthu was founded only 13 generations in the past, itself upon the ruins of an even older city. Mysterious busts of nameless men long forgotten yet strangely familiar were worked into the newer walls of Xanthu, their eyeless faces, pale and dusty imprisoned in the masonry. No scholar ever tried to decipher the strangely familiar writing and no one cared to investigate the identity of the ancient busts whose features were not unlike those of the citizens of Xanthu. For Xanthu was a youth and like all youths it ignored its past living only for the present. The sages could recite the old lineages only so far back before they fell silent, murmuring the final names of their last known ancestors. No founder's name was known, nor could anyone remember how to read the cryptic rune stones which stood silent and grim upon the moor surrounding the city under the double moons.

The only significant event that could be recalled was that every 13th generation witnessed an eclipse of one of the moons by the other: the good moon Arlon passed between the earth and the evil moon Kekh. At this time, according to the legends, the Angel of Arlon descended to earth and after plunging the populace into the Well of Vanquished Souls redeemed them one and all, restoring everyone bodily to the fair city of Xanthu. What their shallow genealogies could not reveal was that every 26th generation witnessed a reversal: the evil moon Kekh eclipsed the good moon Arlon. At this time all souls cast into the well were doomed to destruction.

Now in the Year of the Armadillo on the Eve of the celebration of the Coming of the Angel of Arlon the citizens of Xanthu in the ancient land of Zarnak awoke to find themselves in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls, under the double moons. As was customary according to the scant knowledge of their legends, the people of Xanthu, once over the shock of their predicament, invoked the name of the Angel of Arlon, to appear and release them. The Angel did appear as was also customary, at the top of the well, smiling down upon them under the double moons. At first they shouted their anger and shook their fists that they the good people of Xanthu should be cast into the well with no reason. The Angel of Arlon gently reminded the people, again as was customary, of the payment due for the sin of their ancestors. Not having a history, the people discoursed among themselves as to what that sin may be. They asked the Angel of Arlon various questions regarding the sin, but the Angel (as was customary) was not forthcoming.

When no answer could be found they beseeched the Angel for mercy. They cried and begged for divine pardon, and as the two moons drew closer together, finally the Angel smiling sweetly asked the people down in the Well of Vanquished Souls for the one transgression of their ancestors for which they should make amends in order to be delivered from destruction. Finally, the people answered realizing that it was their loss of history and disregard for the ancient ways and respect for their ancestors that doomed every 13th generation to this trial. Salvation was indeed at hand, said the Angel of Arlon smiling and extending her arms as the double moons for the first time in 26 generations eclipsed with the evil moon Kekh passing between the good moon Arlon and the fair city of Xanthu.

The people of Xanthu recoiled in terror as the sky grew dark and the wind blew cold down into the Well of Vanquished Souls and above them not the Angel of Arlon smiling but the Angel of Kekh laughing. What trick of fate was this shrieked the people in the well? No trick at all gloated the Angel of Kekh, for had you honored your past, he declared to those below, you would have known that every 26th generation the double moons of Kraal occlude in this way bringing darkness, death and destruction. But you would also have known that the only way to avoid obliteration is written on the stones, the warning you put there yourselves all those generations ago. At this the people cried the stones! Yes, we must remember to read the stones! And such was their distress that they did not hear the Angel of Kekh describe in excruciating detail the torment and torture they would endure as they had always endured. They only heard his last words… what a way to die.

Thus ends the tale of the fair city of Xanthu in the ancient land of Zarnak, as real as any dream under the double moons of Kraal.

Narrator 2

Under the double moons of Kraal, in the ancient land of Zarnak stood the fair city of Xanthu. It was known to the bison herders from the desert dunes who came for its nourishing fountains as the city whose waters ran in rivulets along the onyx avenues as real as any dream under the double moons of Kraal. Mnanor-on-the Plain, Mulwani, and especially the Underground City of Peth were said to have been created at the time of the world itself. Buried tablets of polished granite inscribed with meaningless symbols, not unlike their own writing, were exhumed and set at the foot of the massive Staircase of Gohn upon which all who entered the Palace of D'nethor trod.

Nothing older than living memory, or the memory of the memory of anyone who could remember, as it was commonly said, was of any possible use and so, Xanthu, with all its beauty and bounty, never kept written records. Father Gaius II, Grandfather Gaius I , Great-grandfather Rollus, Great-great grandfather Nador III, Great-great-great grandfather Nador II, Great great great great grandfather Nador I, Great great great great great grandfather Nundor. No one could remember, no one would remember the rune stones surrounding the city under the double moons, under the double moons. Great grandfather Rollus, Great great grandfather Nador III. The good moon Arlon passed between the earth and the evil moon Kekh, the double moons of Kraal.

The good moon Arlon, pale yellow, golden as the gilden gates of Xanthu. The evil moon Kekh, blood red with black canals, a spiderweb of veins and sinew. The Well of Vanquished Souls, a crater said made by the earthward plunge of an iron core meteorite thrown in contempt by the Angel of Kekh at the city of Xanthu. Blood red Kekh, evil moon of Kraal eclipsed pale yellow Arlon, low in the sky of Xanthu, every 26th generations. All citizens of Xanthu are then bodily cast into the Well of Vanquished Souls under the double moons. Doomed to destruction under the double moons.

Under the double moons of Kraal the good people of Xanthu, doomed to destruction by the Angel of Arlon, awoke in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls. They invoked the name of the Angel of Arlon to appear under the double moons, Kekh the evil moon and the good moon Arlon. The Angel appeared under the double moons. Blood red Kekh, the evil moon and pale yellow Arlon, low in the sky of Xanthu. They shouted and shook their fists crying out they shouted. Shaking their fists in anger under the double moons they shouted. Doomed to destruction under the double moons.

They discoursed in the bottom of the well discussing the sins of their ancestors. None had an answer. They asked the Angel of Arlon in pale yellow for an answer. She would not answer smiling down upon them under the double moons. Doomed to destruction under the double moons in pale yellow smiling down upon them. Crying they begged for pardon. Begging they cried for pardon as the double moons drew closer. The Angel of Arlon smiling sweetly under the double moons. Doomed to destruction in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls the people cried and begged for divine pardon low in the sky of Xanthu.

The double moons drew closer smiling down upon them. Salvation was at hand smiling and extending her arms under the double moons. Destruction was at hand smiling down upon them blood red Kekh extending his arms and smiling down upon them under the double moons.Terror in the sky, blood red Kekh eclipsed pale yellow Arlon. A dark wind blew in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls. The sky grew cold under the double moons. The Angel of Kekh laughing down upon them, laughing. The people of Xanthu recoiled in terror under the double moons. Terror, blood red Kekh laughing. Doomed to destruction in the bottom of the Well. The people shrieked under the double moons. Darkness, death and destruction laughing down upon them. You are the 26th generation gloated blood red Kekh, you should have known gloated blood red Kekh under the double moons. You should have known gloated blood red Kekh laughing down upon them. You should have known doomed to destruction in the bottom of the well. Terror under the double moons. Doomed to destruction under the double moons.

But you will not remember gloated blood red Kekh. You will not remember laughing down upon them under the double moons. Darkness, death and destruction under the double moons. Torment and torture under the double moons. Blood red Kekh under the double moons. Laughing and gloating under the double moons. Blood red Kekh extending his arms and smiling down upon them.You will not remember. You will not remember.

May 8, 2012 Urbana, Illinois.

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Solo 1

♩=60

Soprano

a8 whispered

Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu

spoken

p

Alto

♩=60

a8

oo___

p

Tenor

sounding 8va lower

♩=60

a8 sung (8vb)

Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon

pp poco a poco crescendo...

Solo 2

♩=60

Bass

a8 sung

Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh

pp poco a poco crescendo...

Narrator 1

spoken

Under the double moons of Kraal, in the ancient land of Zarnak stood the fair city of Xanthu. It was known to travelers along caravan routes from the far mountains as the city of yellow gilded gates and green tourmaline towers. Xanthu was all this and much more, as real as any dream under the double moons of Kraal.

Narrator 2

spoken

Under the double moons of Kraal, in the ancient land of Zarnak stood the fair city of Xanthu. It was known to the bison herders from the desert dunes who came for its nourishing fountains as the city whose waters ran in rivulets along the onyx avenues as real as any dream under the double moons of Kraal.

A

sung

S

Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu

p *poco a poco crescendo...*

A

a8 spoken

And Xanthu was young com- pared with other cities____

mp

A

T

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon

p *poco a poco crescendo...*

B

Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh

p *poco a poco crescendo...*

Nar. 1 And Xanthu was young compared with other cities. Every boulder and brick was already crumbling into dust when fair Xanthu was founded only 13 generations in the past, itself upon the ruins of an even older city. Mysterious busts of nameless men long forgotten yet strangely familiar

Nar. 2 Mnanor-on-the Plain, Mulwani, and especially the Underground City of Peth were said to have been created at the time of the world itself. Buried tablets of polished granite inscribed with meaningless symbols, not unlike their own writing, were exhumed and set at the foot of the massive

S

mp poco a poco crescendo...

A

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu

Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu Under the double moons of Kraal in the

Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu Under the double moons of Kraal in the

Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu Under the double moons of Kraal in the

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal in the anci- ent land of Zar- nak

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal in the anci- ent land of Zar- nak

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal oo_____

mp poco a poco crescendo...

T

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Xan-thu Xan-thu Xan-thu Xan-thu

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Zar- nak Zar- nak Zar- nak Zar- nak Zar- nak Zar- nak Zar- nak Zar- nak

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al Kra-a-al

mp poco a poco crescendo...

B

1-4 Kraal Zar-nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar-nak

5-8 Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh

mp poco a poco crescendo...

Nar. 1 were worked into the newer walls of Xanthu, their eyeless faces, pale and dusty imprisoned in the masonry. No scholar ever tried to decipher the strangely familiar writing and no one cared to investigate the identity of the ancient busts whose features were not unlike those of the citizens of Xanthu.

Nar. 2 Staircase of Gohn upon which all who entered the Palace of D'nethor trod. Nothing older than living memory, or the memory of the memory of anyone who could remember, as it was commonly said, was of any possible use and so, Xanthu, with all its beauty and bounty, never kept written records.

S

Xan- thu ah___ Xan- thu ah___ Xan- thu Xan- thu ah Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu ah___ Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu___ ah___ Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu ah___ Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu Xan- thu___ Xan- thu___ ah___ Xan-

pp Zar-

pp

mf *molto crescendo...* *ff*

A

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu

Under the double moons of Kraal Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu

Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak stood the fair city of Xan- thu oo

Under the double moons of Kraal in the ancient land of Zar- nak oo___

Under the double moons of Kraal oo___

oo___

oo___

mf *molto crescendo...* *ff*

T

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon ah___

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon ah___

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar-nak ah___

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon ah___

Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon ah___

ah___

ah___

ah___

mf *molto crescendo...* *ff*

B

Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal ah___

Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar-nak ah___

Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Kraal ah___

Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Zar- nak Xan-thu ah___

Nar. 1 For Xanthu was a youth and like all youths it ignored its past living only for the present. The sages could recite the old lineages only so far back before they fell silent, murmuring the final names of their last known ancestors. No founder's name was known, nor could anyone remember

Nar. 2 Father Gaius II, Grandfather Gaius I , Great-grandfather Rollus, Great-great grandfather Nador III, Great-great-great grandfather Nador II, Great great great great grandfather Nador I, Great great great great great grandfather Nundor

B
S
1
2
3
4
thu
Xan-
thu
Xan-
thu
Xan- thu
Xan-
nak
Zar- nak
Kraal
Zar- nak
Zar- nak
Kraal
Kraal
Kraal
Kraal
Kraal
Kraal
pp
crescendo...
Nar. 1
how to read the cryptic rune stones which stood silent and grim upon the moor surrounding the city under the double moons. The only significant event that could be recalled was that every 13th generation witnessed an eclipse of one of the moons by the other: the good moon Arlon passed between the earth
Nar. 2
No one could remember, no one would remember the rune stones surrounding the city under the double moons, under the double moons. Great grandfather Rollus, Great great grandfather Nador III. The good moon Arlon passed between the earth and the evil moon Kekh, the double moons of Kraal.

S

thu

oo

sim.

mp

A

mp

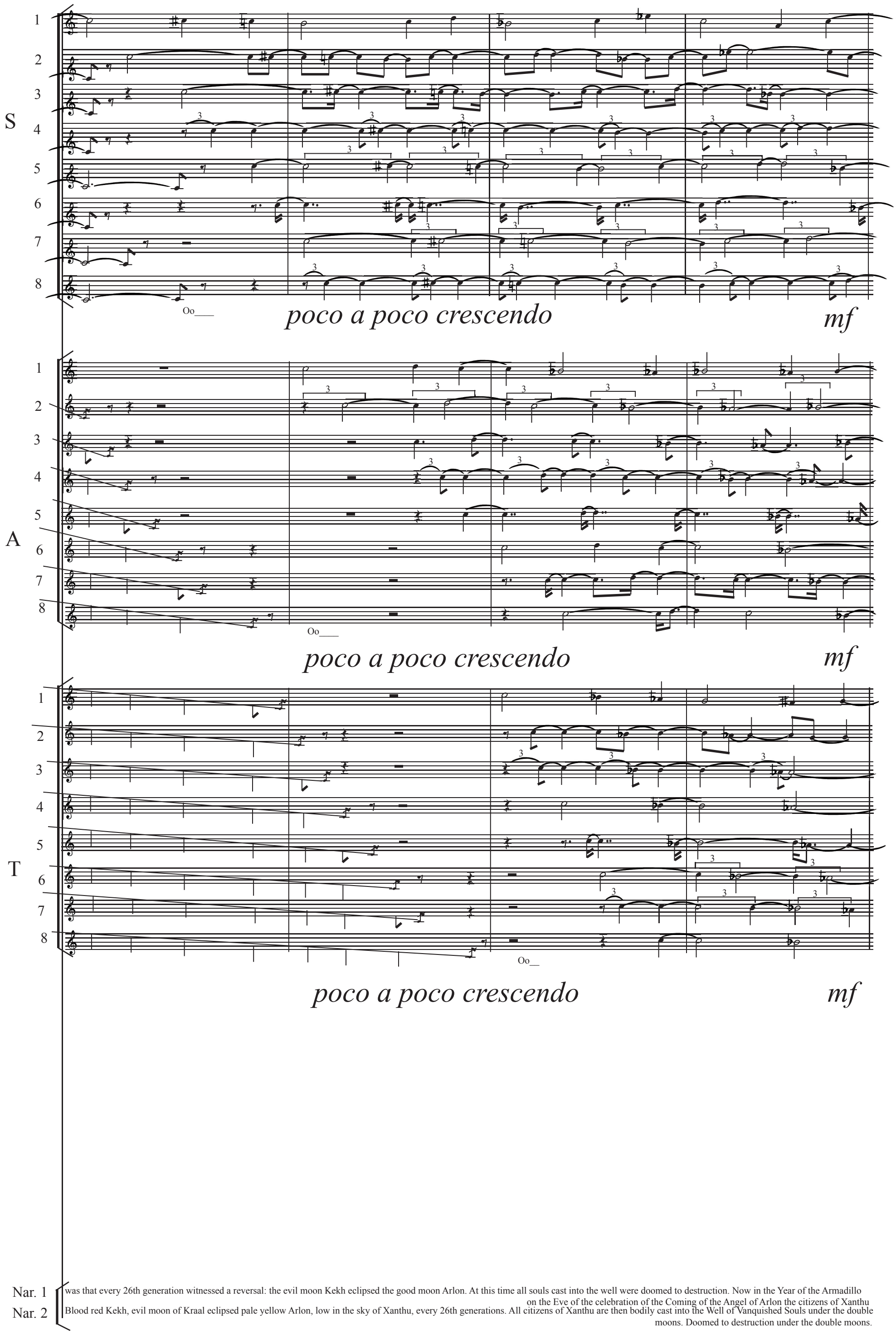
T

ah

mp

Nar. 1 and the evil moon Kekh. At this time, according to the legends, the Angel of Arlon descended to earth and after plunging the populace into the Well of Vanquished Souls redeemed them one and all, restoring everyone bodily to the fair city of Xanthu. What their shallow genealogies could not reveal

Nar. 2 The good moon Arlon, pale yellow, golden as the gilden gates of Xanthu. The evil moon Kekh, blood red with black canals, a spiderweb of veins and sinew. The Well of Vanquished Souls, a crater said made by the earthward plunge of an iron core meteorite thrown in contempt by the Angel of Kekh at the city of Xanthu.


S
Oo___
poco a poco crescendo
mf
A
Oo___
poco a poco crescendo
mf
T
Oo__
poco a poco crescendo
mf
Nar. 1
was that every 26th generation witnessed a reversal: the evil moon Kekh eclipsed the good moon Arlon. At this time all souls cast into the well were doomed to destruction. Now in the Year of the Armadillo on the Eve of the celebration of the Coming of the Angel of Arlon the citizens of Xanthu
Nar. 2
Blood red Kekh, evil moon of Kraal eclipsed pale yellow Arlon, low in the sky of Xanthu, every 26th generations. All citizens of Xanthu are then bodily cast into the Well of Vanquished Souls under the double moons. Doomed to destruction under the double moons.

S

poco a poco crescendo *f* Ar-lon! Ar-lon! Ar-lon! Free us! Shout *ff* Shout

A

poco a poco crescendo *f* Ar-lon! Ar-lon! Re-lease us! *ff*

T

[*gliss* on indistinct mumbling] *molto crescendo f* Ar- lon! Your servants call to you Ar- lon! Your servants call your servants call to

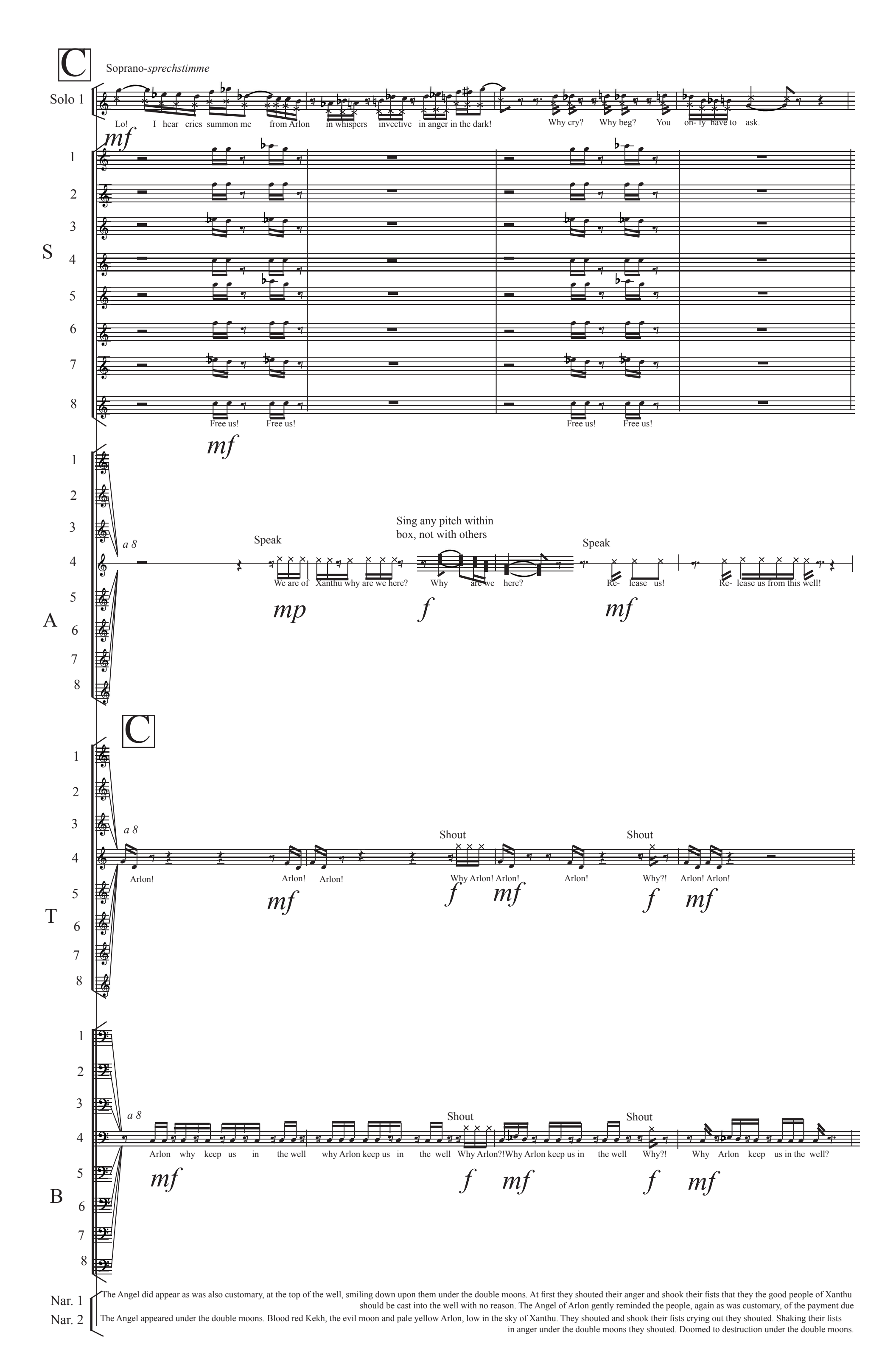
B

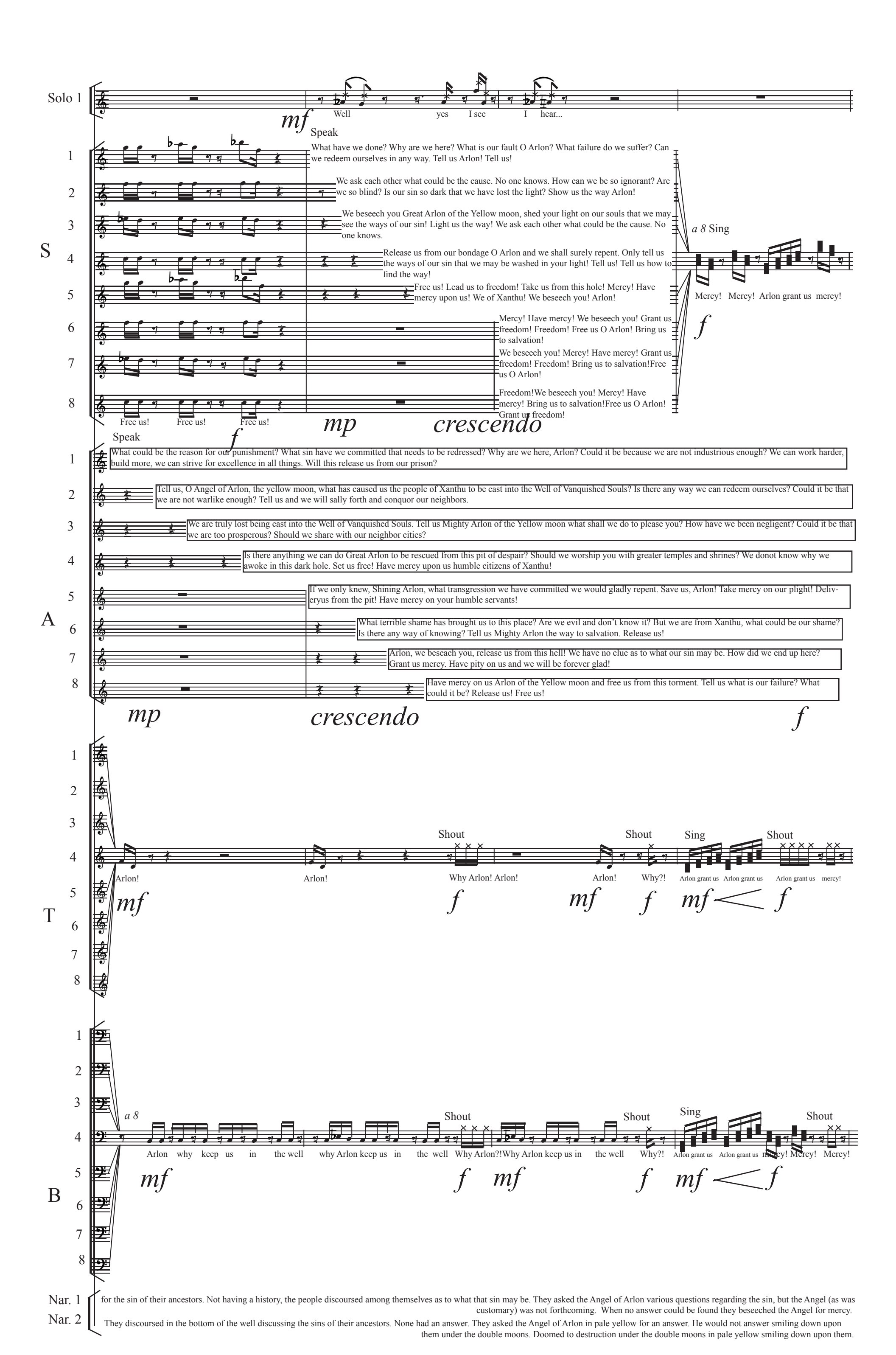
[*gliss* on indistinct mumbling] Please do re- lease us!

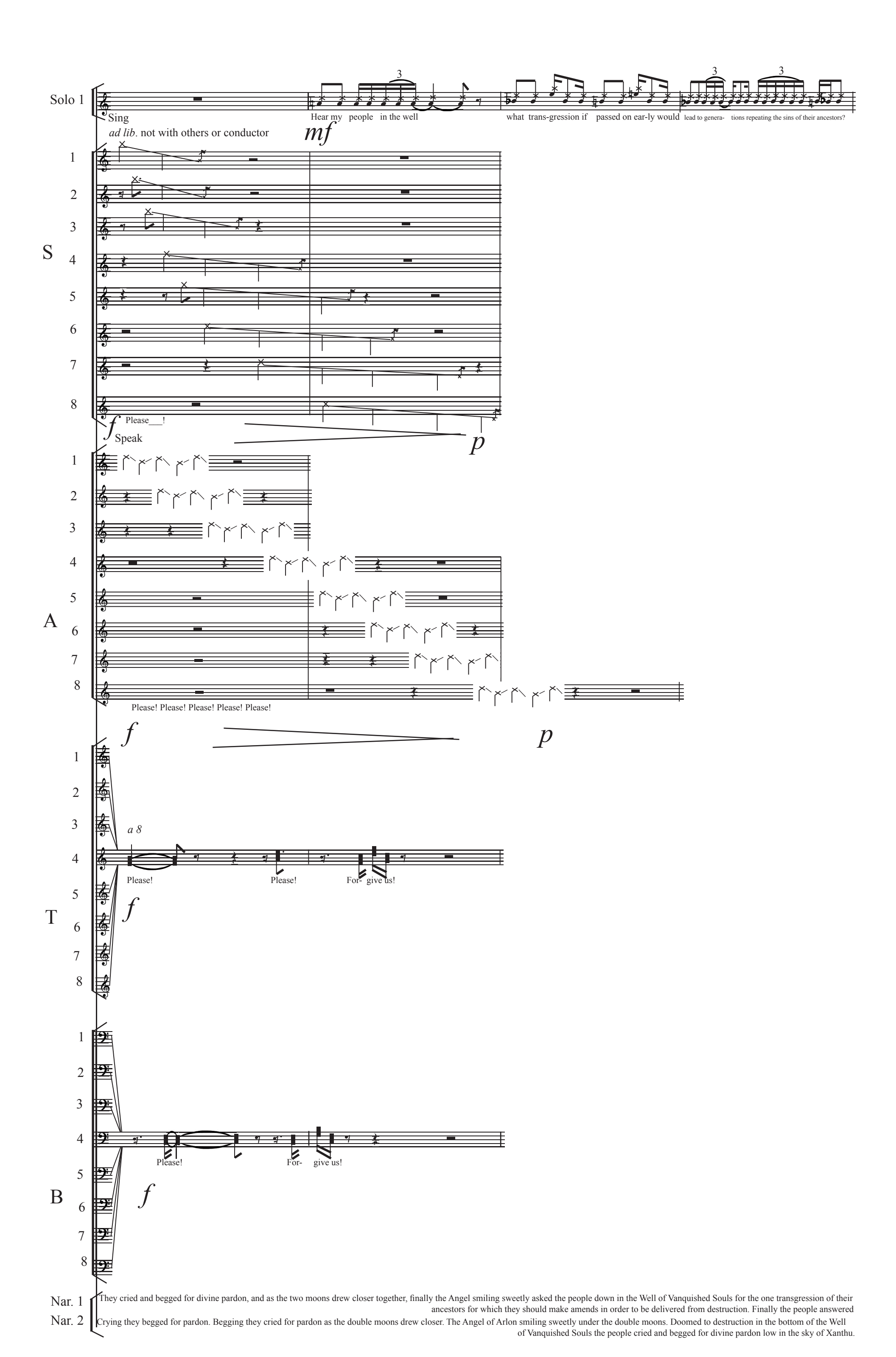
molto crescendo f Ar- lon! *ff*

Nar. 1 in the ancient land of Zarnak awoke to find themselves in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls, under the double moons. As was customary according to the scant knowledge of their legends, the people of Xanthu, once over the shock of their predicament, invoked the name of the Angel of Arlon, to appear and release them.

Nar. 2 Under the double moons of Kraal the good people of Xanthu doomed to destruction by the Angel of Arlon awoke in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls. They invoked the name of the Angel of Arlon to appear under the double moons, Kekh the evil moon and the good moon Arlon


C
Soprano-sprechstimme
Solo 1
Lo! I hear cries summon me from Arlon in whispers invective in anger in the dark!
Why cry? Why beg? You on- ly have to ask.
mf
S
Free us! Free us!
Free us! Free us!
mf
a 8
Speak
Sing any pitch within box, not with others
Speak
We are of Xanthu why are we here?
Why are we here?
Re- lease us!
Re- lease us from this well!
mp
f
mf
A
C
a 8
Shout
Shout
Arlon!
Arlon! Arlon!
Why Arlon! Arlon!
Arlon!
Why?! Arlon! Arlon!
mf
f
mf
f
mf
T
a 8
Shout
Shout
Arlon why keep us in the well
why Arlon keep us in the well
Why Arlon?!
Why Arlon keep us in the well
Why?!
Why Arlon keep us in the well?
mf
f
mf
f
mf
B
Nar. 1
The Angel did appear as was also customary, at the top of the well, smiling down upon them under the double moons. At first they shouted their anger and shook their fists that they the good people of Xanthu should be cast into the well with no reason. The Angel of Arlon gently reminded the people, again as was customary, of the payment due
Nar. 2
The Angel appeared under the double moons. Blood red Kekh, the evil moon and pale yellow Arlon, low in the sky of Xanthu. They shouted and shook their fists crying out they shouted. Shaking their fists in anger under the double moons they shouted. Doomed to destruction under the double moons.


Solo 1
Well yes I see I hear...
mf
Speak
What have we done? Why are we here? What is our fault O Arlon? What failure do we suffer? Can we redeem ourselves in any way. Tell us Arlon! Tell us!
We ask each other what could be the cause. No one knows. How can we be so ignorant? Are we so blind? Is our sin so dark that we have lost the light? Show us the way Arlon!
We beseech you Great Arlon of the Yellow moon, shed your light on our souls that we may see the ways of our sin! Light us the way! We ask each other what could be the cause. No one knows.
Release us from our bondage O Arlon and we shall surely repent. Only tell us the ways of our sin that we may be washed in your light! Tell us! Tell us how to find the way!
Free us! Lead us to freedom! Take us from this hole! Mercy! Have mercy upon us! We of Xanthu! We beseech you! Arlon!
Mercy! Have mercy! We beseech you! Grant us freedom! Freedom! Free us O Arlon! Bring us to salvation!
We beseech you! Mercy! Have mercy! Grant us freedom! Freedom! Bring us to salvation!Free us O Arlon!
Freedom!We beseech you! Mercy! Have mercy! Bring us to salvation!Free us O Arlon! Grant us freedom!
S
a 8 Sing
Mercy! Mercy! Arlon grant us mercy!
f
Free us! Free us! Free us!
mp
crescendo
Speak
f
What could be the reason for our punishment? What sin have we committed that needs to be redressed? Why are we here, Arlon? Could it be because we are not industrious enough? We can work harder, build more, we can strive for excellence in all things. Will this release us from our prison?
Tell us, O Angel of Arlon, the yellow moon, what has caused us the people of Xanthu to be cast into the Well of Vanquished Souls? Is there any way we can redeem ourselves? Could it be that we are not warlike enough? Tell us and we will sally forth and conquor our neighbors.
We are truly lost being cast into the Well of Vanquished Souls. Tell us Mighty Arlon of the Yellow moon what shall we do to please you? How have we been negligent? Could it be that we are too prosperous? Should we share with our neighbor cities?
Is there anything we can do Great Arlon to be rescued from this pit of despair? Should we worship you with greater temples and shrines? We donot know why we awoke in this dark hole. Set us free! Have mercy upon us humble citizens of Xanthu!
If we only knew, Shining Arlon, what transgression we have committed we would gladly repent. Save us, Arlon! Take mercy on our plight! Deliv-eryus from the pit! Have mercy on your humble servants!
A
What terrible shame has brought us to this place? Are we evil and don't know it? But we are from Xanthu, what could be our shame? Is there any way of knowing? Tell us Mighty Arlon the way to salvation. Release us!
Arlon, we beseach you, release us from this hell! We have no clue as to what our sin may be. How did we end up here? Grant us mercy. Have pity on us and we will be forever glad!
Have mercy on us Arlon of the Yellow moon and free us from this torment. Tell us what is our failure? What could it be? Release us! Free us!
mp
crescendo
f
Shout
Shout
Sing
Shout
Arlon!
Arlon!
Why Arlon! Arlon!
Arlon!
Why?!
Arlon grant us
Arlon grant us
Arlon grant us
mercy!
T
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
a 8
Shout
Shout
Sing
Shout
Arlon why keep us in the well
why Arlon keep us in the well
Why Arlon?!
Why Arlon keep us in the well
Why?!
Arlon grant us
Arlon grant us
mercy!
Mercy!
Mercy!
B
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
Nar. 1
for the sin of their ancestors. Not having a history, the people discoursed among themselves as to what that sin may be. They asked the Angel of Arlon various questions regarding the sin, but the Angel (as was customary) was not forthcoming. When no answer could be found they beseeched the Angel for mercy.
Nar. 2
They discoursed in the bottom of the well discussing the sins of their ancestors. None had an answer. They asked the Angel of Arlon in pale yellow for an answer. He would not answer smiling down upon them under the double moons. Doomed to destruction under the double moons in pale yellow smiling down upon them.


Solo 1
Sing
ad lib. not with others or conductor
Hear my people in the well
what trans-gression if passed on ear-ly would
lead to genera- tions repeating the sins of their ancestors?
mf
S
Please___!
Speak
f
p
A
Please! Please! Please! Please! Please!
f
p
T
a 8
Please!
Please!
For- give us!
f
B
Please!
For- give us!
f
Nar. 1
They cried and begged for divine pardon, and as the two moons drew closer together, finally the Angel smiling sweetly asked the people down in the Well of Vanquished Souls for the one transgression of their ancestors for which they should make amends in order to be delivered from destruction. Finally the people answered
Nar. 2
Crying they begged for pardon. Begging they cried for pardon as the double moons drew closer. The Angel of Arlon smiling sweetly under the double moons. Doomed to destruction in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls the people cried and begged for divine pardon low in the sky of Xanthu.

D

Solo 1

mf Sal- va- tion is near at hand I'll de- liv- er you up from the

f

S

1 We lived on- ly for the day nev-er think-ing of our fath-ers and fath- ers' fath- ers Sal- va- tion!

2 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er think- ing of our fath- ers and fath- ers fath- ers Sal- va- tion!

3 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er think- ing of our fath- ers and fath- ers Sal- va- tion!

4 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er think- ing of our fath- ers and Sal- va- tion!

5 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er think- ing of our fath- ers Sal- va- tion!

6 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er think- ing of our Sal- va- tion!

7 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er think- ing Sal- va- tion!

8 We lived on- ly for the day nev- er Sal- va- tion!

mp *crescendo* *f*

A

1 We lived on- ly for the day Sal- va- tion!

2 We lived on- ly for the Sal- va- tion!

3 We lived on- ly Sal- va- tion!

4 We lived Sal- va- tion!

5 Sal- va- tion!

6 Sal- va- tion!

7 Sal- va- tion!

8 Sal- va- tion!

mf *f*

T

1 Sal- va- tion!

2 Sal- va- tion!

3 Sal- va- tion!

4 Sal- va- tion!

5 Sal- va- tion!

6 Sal- va- tion!

7 Sal- va- tion!

8 Sal- va- tion!

f

Nar. 1 realizing that it was their loss of history and disregard for the ancient ways and respect for their ancestors that doomed every 13th generation to this trial. Salvation was indeed at hand, said the Angel of Arlon smiling and extending her arms as the double moons for the first time in 26 generations

Nar. 2 The double moons drew closer smiling down upon them. Salvation was at hand smiling and extending his arms under the double moons. Destruction was at hand smiling down upon them blood red Kekh extending his arms and smiling down upon them under the double moons.

Bass-*Sprechstimme*

Solo 2

Evil laugh

f

E

S

Rapid terrified mumbling

ff Aah!____

p crescendo

A

ff Aah!____

mp crescendo

T

Shout

Sing

It's Kekh!

Kekh!

What is he doing here?

He shouldn't be here!

Help us!

Why does he come for us?!

What is happen-ing?!

Tell me now tell me now tell me now!

Tell me! Tell me!

Scream

Aah!

What is happening what is happening?!

Help!

It's Kekh it's

Why is he here?

Save us!

No!

Why weren't we saved?!

Why weren't we saved?!

ff Aah!____

f crescendo

B

a 8

Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak

ff

Nar. 1 eclipsed with the evil moon Kekh passing between the good moon Arlon and the fair city of Xanthu.The people of Xanthu recoiled in terror as the sky grew dark and the wind blew cold down into the Well of Vanquished Souls and above them not the Angel of Arlon smiling but the Angel of Kekh laughing.

Nar. 2 Terror in the sky blood red Kekh eclipsed pale yellow Arlon. A dark wind blew in the bottom of the Well of Vanquished Souls. The sky grew cold under the double moons. The Angel of Kekh laughing down upon them, laughing. The people of Xanthu recoiled in terror under the double moons.

Evil laugh

Solo 2

mf

No trick at all for had you honored your fath- ers you would have known the double moons

f

S

a 8

Shriek Sing Shriek

Oh! What trick of fate What hellish trick of fate?! Unless our eyes deceive us!

ff

Rapid terrified mumbling

mf

A

a 8

Shriek Shriek

Oh! De- ceive us why deceive us?! Fate! Oh!

ff

Rapid terrified mumbling

mf

T

1 Shout Sing It's Kekh! It's Kekh!

2 Sing Shout Kekh!

3 What is he doing here? He shouldn't be here! Help us! Help us! Kekh! Why does he come for us?! Kekh! What is he doing here? He shouldn't be here!

4 Shout Scream What is happen-ing?! Sing Tell me now tell me now tell me now! Kekh! Kekh! Tell me! Tell me! Shout Scream What is happen-ing?!

5 Shout Aah! It's Kekh! Sing What is happening what is happening?! Sing Kekh! It's Kekh! Shout Aah! It's Kekh!

6 Sing Shout Kekh! Tell me now tell me now tell me now! Scream Aah! Shout Ar- lon! Ar- lon! Sing Shout Help! It's Kekh it's Kekh! Kekh! Sing Shout Kekh! Tell me now tell me now tell me now!

7 Shout Why is he here? Save us! Save us! Sing No! No! Why is he here? Why is he here? Save us! Save

8 Sing No! Shout No! No! Why weren't we saved?! Sing Why weren't we saved?! Sing No! Sing No! No! Sing No! Shout No! No!

ff

B

(*a 8*) 1,2,3 Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Kekh Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak Xan- thu Kraal

Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kraal Zar- nak Xan- thu Ar- lon Kekh Zar- nak

ff

1 Xanthu Kekh Kraal Arlon

1,2 Xan-thu Kekh Kraal Ar- lon Zar- nak Xan- thu Kekh Kraal

5,6,7,8 Xan-thu Ar- lon Kraal Kekh Zar-nak Xan-thu Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Xan-thu Zar- nak Ar- lon

6,7,8 Xanthu Kekh Kraal Arlon Zarnak Kekh Xanthu Kraal

Nar. 1 What trick of fate was this shrieked the people in the well? No trick at all gloated the Angel of Kekh, for had you honored your past, he declared to those below, you would have known that every 26th generation the double moons of Kraal occlude in this way bringing darkness, death and destruction.

Nar. 2 Terror blood red Kekh laughing. Doomed to destruction in the bottom of the Well. The people shrieked under the double moons. Darkness, death and destruction laughing down upon them. You are the 26th generation gloated blood red Kekh, you should have known gloated blood red Kekh under the double moons.

F

Solo 2

e- clipse in just this situ- a- tion bringing death and de- struc- tion and had you read the stones you could a-void what comes to you now

f

S

Sh C Sing Ss Ch

the stones! Aah!

Solo 2

mp crescendo

f

P K Shout/Sing Fs

the stones! Ah!

A

F

mp crescendo

f

Shout Sing

It's Kekh! It's Kekh!

Kekh!

What is he doing here? He shouldn't be here!

Help us! Help us! Kekh!

Why does he come for us?! Kekh!

What is happen-ing?!

Tell me now tell me now tell me now! Kekh!

Kekh! Tell me! Tell me!

Scream Aah!

What is happening what is happening?!

Kekh! It's Kekh!

Tell me now tell me now tell me now!

Aah! Ar- lon! Ar- lon!

Help! It's Kekh it's Kekh! Kekh!

Why is he here?

Save us! Save us! No!

Why weren't we saved?! Why weren't we saved?!

T

decrescendo

mf

Xanthu Kekh Arlon Kraal Zarnak Kekh Xanthu Kraal KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo

Ar- lon Zar- nak Xan- thu Kekh Kraal Ar- lon Zar- nak Xan- thu Kekh Kraal Arlon Kekh Xanthu Kraal Zarnak Kekh Arlon Kraal

Zar- nak Kekh Ar- lon Xanthu Kraal Arlon Kekh Zar- nak Xanthu Arlon Kekh Zar- nak Xanthu Kraal

Xan- thu Kraal Zar- nak Ar- lon Kekh Kraal Ar- lon Xan- thu Zar- nak Ar- lon Kekh

mp

B

Kekh Kraal Xan- thu Ar- lon Zar- nak Kekh Kraal Xan- thu Ar- lon Zar- nak Xan- thu Kekh Kraal Ar- lon Xan- thu Kekh Kraal Ar- lon Xan- thu Kekh Kraal

Xanthu Kekh Arlon Kraal Zarnak Kekh Arlon Kraal Zarnak Kekh Arlon Kraal Xanthu Kekh Arlon Kraal Zarnak Kekh Arlon Kraal Xanthu Kekh Arlon Kraal Zarnak Kekh Arlon Kraal Xanthu Kekh Arlon Kraal

Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki Ka-Ki-Ku-Ki

Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki Ke-Ko-Ki-Ki KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo KaKiKuKeKo

decrescendo

Nar. 1 But you would also have known that the only way to avoid obliteration is written on the stones, the warning you put there yourselves all those generations ago. At this the people cried the stones! Yes, we must remember to read the stones! And such was their distress that they did not hear the Angel of Kekh describe

Nar. 2 You should have known gloated blood red Kekh laughing down upon them. You should have known doomed to destruction in the bottom of the well. Terror under the double moons. Doomed to destruction under the double moons. But you will not remember gloated blood red Kekh. You will not remember laughing down upon them under the double moons.

Solo 2

'Tho you won't rememb- er I'll tell you now of your fate each time the moons collide in the sky...

Mumble secretively

mp

S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Scream

Aah___

mp crescendo

molto f fff

A

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Scream

Aah___

mp crescendo

molto f fff

T

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

P K Shout/Sing Fs

the stones! Ah!

Aah___

mp crescendo

molto f fff

B

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

P K Shout/Sing Fs

the stones! Ah!

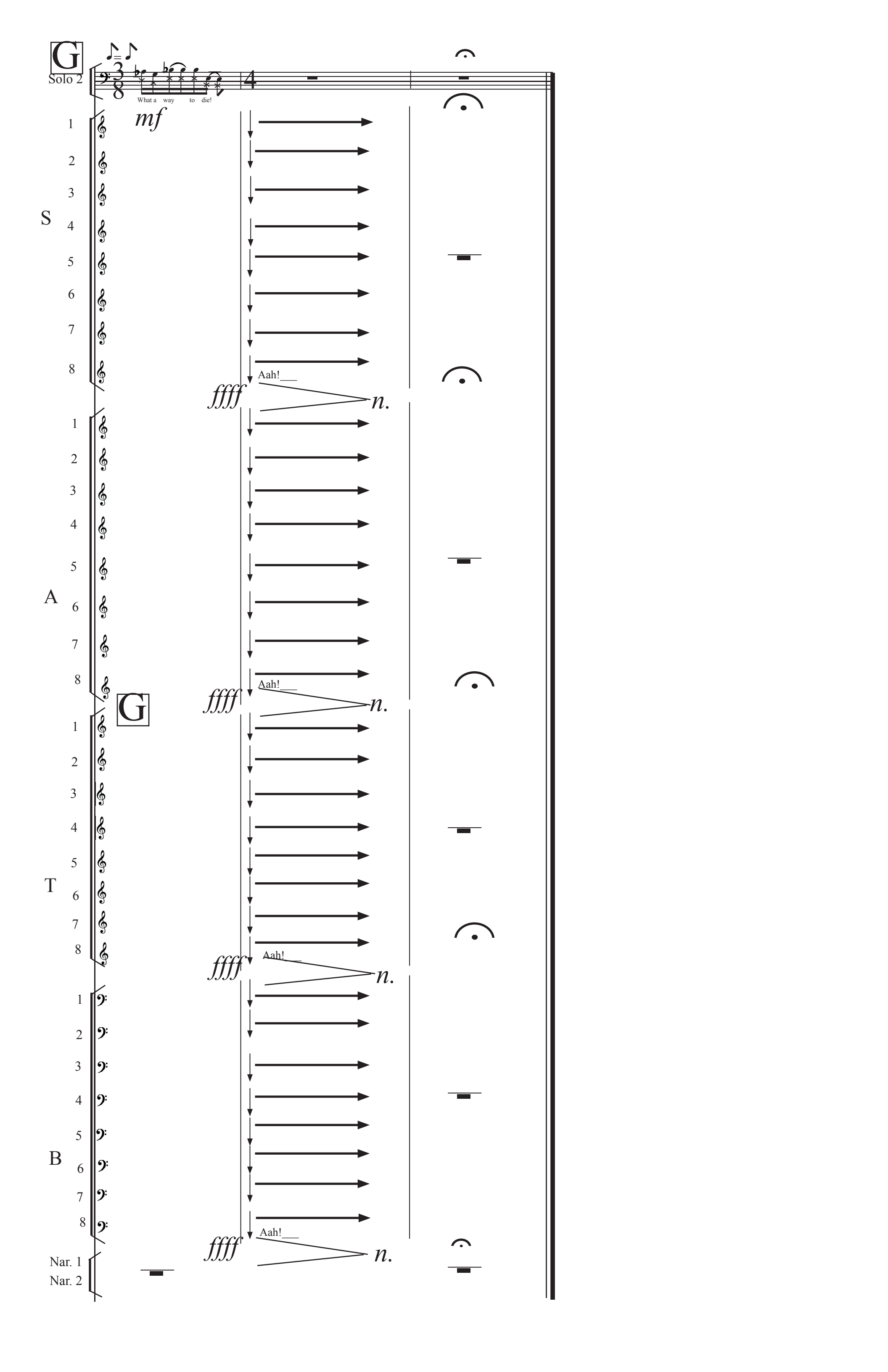
Aah___

mp crescendo

molto f fff

Nar. 1 in excruciating detail the torment and torture they would endure as they had always endured. They only heard his last words…what a way to die. Thus ends the tale of the fair city of Xanthu in the ancient l and of Zarnak, as real as any dream under the double moons of Kraal.

Nar. 2 Darkness, death and destruction under the double moons. Torment and torture under the double moons. Blood red Kekh under the double moons. Laughing and gloating under the double moons. Blood red Kekh extending his arms and smiling down upon them.You will not remember. You will not remember.


G
Solo 2
What a way to die!
mf
S
A
G
T
B
Aah!
ffff
n.
Nar. 1
Nar. 2